

<i>Financial year</i>	<i>Cost -category</i>			
	Less than 1 Cr.	1-10 Cr.	10-20 Cr.	20-100 Cr.
1988-89	22	9	—	—
1989-90	7	1	—	1
1990-91	5	2	—	—

There have been only 4 cases of cost over-run. The earmarked outlay of these projects was Rs.5.06 crores as against the revised estimated outlay of Rs.7.40 crores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Import of Gold

* 832. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India continues to be the largest consumer market for gold in the world;

(b) if so, the quantity of gold imported during each of the last three years;

(c) the countries from which gold is being imported;

(d) whether the government propose to stop the import of gold; and

(e) if so, the time by which it is likely to be stopped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No reliable data are available in this regard.

(b) Total quantity of gold imported by the institutions (SBI, MMTC, HHEC) during the last 3 years to service the exporters of jewellery is as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity (Kg.)</i>
1988-89	6446
1989-90	9050
1990-91	7061

(c) Switzerland and through the bullion Market in London, U.K.

(d) Import of gold is regulated under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 which bans imports of gold except by special permission. Imports of gold are permitted by specified institutions or units under the Schemes formulated by the Ministry of Commerce for export of gold jewellery. No proposal for further restricting the import of gold is under consideration of the Government.

(e) Does not arise.

Grants-in-Aid to Institutions.

* 833. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to

curtail grants-in-aid to a number of institutions under administrative control of his Ministry such as Export-Promotion Councils, Indian Foreign Trade Institutions, Trade Fair Authority of India due to severe resource crunch;

(b) the total grants-in-aid given to such institutions annually; and

(c) the impact of the cut in grants-in-aid on the functioning of these institutions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) An exercise is already underway to review the working of Export Promotion Councils and other promotional agencies under the Commerce Ministry. This exercise would also include efforts towards making these agencies self-supporting.

(b) The total grants-in-aid given to such institutions was Rs.37.63 crores in 1990-91.

(c) It is rather premature to give any

assessment.

Diamond Industry

* 834. **SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
PROF. RASA SINGH
RAWAT:**

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE be
pleased to state:**

(a) the foreign exchange earned from the export of diamonds during the last three years, country-wise;

(b) whether the diamond industry is considered as a small scale industry; and

(c) if so, the facilities and incentives being given to this industry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The exports of cut and polished diamonds country-wise during the last three years have been as follows:-